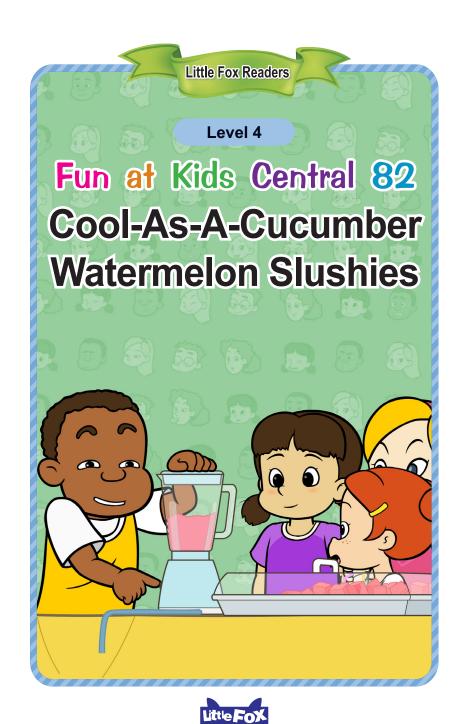


Level 4

Fun at Kids Central 82 Cool-As-A-Cucumber Watermelon Slushies



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I'm melting! It's so hot outside!" Bobby said.

"The thermometer says it's 35°C," Nina said. "That's really hot!"

"We need to go inside anyway," Miss Shelly said. "We have to meet someone."

"Who?" Nina asked.

"You'll see," Miss Shelly replied.

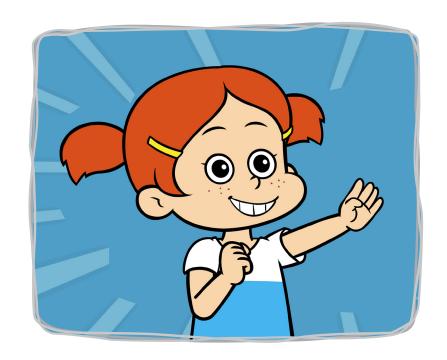


The kids saw a small, red-headed girl waiting by the office. "Hi, Aunt Marie!"

Miss Shelly gave her a quick hug. "This is my niece Ginger. She's visiting us today. I hope you will all make her feel welcome."

"Hey, Ginger. I'm Bobby."

"Hi," Ginger said shyly.



Izzie smiled at the younger girl. "I'm Izzie. How old are you?"

"I just turned six," Ginger said.

"I'm Nina. Do you have any pets?" Nina asked.

Ginger nodded. "I have four bunnies."

"Four bunnies!" Ethan and Jason said at the same time.



"That's awesome! I'm Jason."

"And I'm Ethan."

Bobby fanned himself as they walked toward the gym.

"Our special activity today is cooking," Miss Shelly said.

"This is where we cook," Bobby said.

Miss Shelly pulled out a tray of frozen



watermelon cut into cubes. "Yesterday, we cut up a watermelon and froze the cubes. Today we are going to make coolas-a-cucumber watermelon slushies." She pointed to the board. "That's the ingredients list. Let's make sure we have everything before we start."

"Half a cup of chopped and peeled



cucumber," Jason read. "Four cups of frozen watermelon cubes. Juice from one lime. Ten fresh mint leaves. About threefourth cup of coconut water."

Bobby took his place behind the blender. "Ginger, can you please get the watermelon?" He handed her a measuring cup.

Ginger scooped four cups of watermelon



into the blender. Bobby blended it into an icy slush.

"What a pretty pink color!" Ginger said.

Ethan added the cucumbers and lime juice. Jason tossed in the mint leaves. Izzie poured in the coconut water.

"Final blend!" Bobby hit Blend. The ingredients swirled together. "I think it's



ready now."

"The first sip goes to our special guest!"
Nina said. She poured Ginger an ice-cold watermelon slushie.

"Yum!" Ginger said.

Nina poured everyone else a tall glass. The room was quiet as everyone slurped their slushies.



"Brr." Nina shivered. "I actually felt cold for a second!"

"If you drink these too fast, you'll get a headache," Ethan said.

"Thank you, Miss Shelly. This is delicious!" Bobby said.

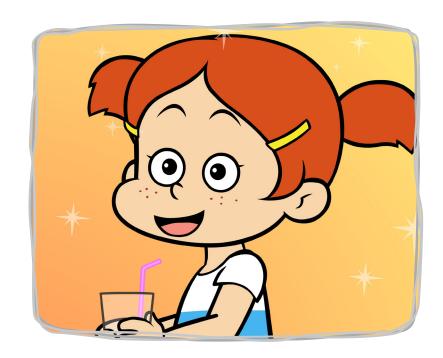
Miss Shelly took a sip of her slushie. "You're welcome. I'm a lucky teacher.



You kids are becoming great chefs."

Bobby looked at Ginger. "We do different things every day," he said. "Cooking days are fun because we get to eat." He picked up his glass and put it in the sink. "I just wish we didn't have to clean up afterward!"

Ginger giggled.



Nina smiled at her. "Thanks for coming to visit us today."

"You're welcome," Ginger said. She sipped her slushie. "I think Kids Central is cool!"

